

U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney District of Maryland

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FOUR BALTIMORE MEN INDICTED ON DRUG CONSPIRACY CHARGES

Operation Oswego Seeks to Revitalize the Oswego Mall area

BALTIMORE, Maryland - A federal grand jury has indicted Craig Winkey, age 25, Corey Slater, age 25, Andre Everett, age 24, and Ty Hopkins, age 20, all of the Oswego Mall area of Baltimore, for crimes committed in connection with a conspiracy to distribute crack cocaine, announced United States Attorney for the District of Maryland Rod J. Rosenstein.

The three-count indictment, which was returned on May 10, 2006 and unsealed today, charges the defendants with conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute crack cocaine from March to April 13, 2006. The indictment is part of Operation Oswego and Maryland Exile.

United States Attorney Rod J. Rosenstein stated, "Operation Oswego is a federally funded initiative to help Oswego Mall residents fight crime in their community. Together with our federal, state and local partners, we have increased the law enforcement presence and are working to rid the area of drug dealers and violent gangs. We also are working to improve the quality of life in the community by providing resources to support job training services, computer skills training, a youth steel-drum band and a community garden."

The defendants face a maximum statutory penalty of 30 years in prison and a \$2,000,000 fine on each count of the indictment. Craig Winkey, Corey Slater and Ty Hopkins have been arrested and Winkey is scheduled for an initial appearance this afternoon at 3:15 p.m. in U.S. District Court. No court appearance has yet been scheduled for Slater and Hopkins. Andre Everett is still being sought.

An indictment is not a finding of guilt. An individual charged by indictment is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty at some later criminal proceedings.

United States Attorney Rod J. Rosenstein commended the investigative work performed by the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Baltimore City Police Department with the cooperation of the Baltimore City State's Attorney's Office. Mr. Rosenstein thanked Assistant U.S. Attorneys Gregory Welsh and Debra Dwyer, who are prosecuting the case.